

SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS

1. Rs. 1,000 under "2. Agriculture—C—Veterinary—Medicines"

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): Sir, I beg to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 1,000 under "2—Agriculture—C—Veterinary—Medicines". The reasons are given in the note circulated among the members of the Standing Finance Committee. I request the House may be pleased to sanction the allotment.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): On a point of information, Sir, may I know whether the Hon'ble Minister is aware that the drugs used for preventing the diseases have been used only after the pest is over because of the delay in getting them?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): If the medicine is not available, they will have to get it down.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): Cannot the Hon'ble Minister make some arrangement to get some drugs beforehand and keep it?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): All the requirements have been met by the Government. We did not get any application for medicine. Anyhow, I shall enquire into this matter, and if there is any insufficiency of medicine we will see to it.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): In certain cases the ryots were prepared to pay for the serum. But it was not available.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): The serum cannot be kept indefinitely. It has to be used within a specified period. So it is only after the outbreak of the disease that they could write for the serum.

Demand put and carried

2. Rs. 300 under "23. Ayurveda—T. A."

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): Sir, I beg to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 300 under "23—Ayurveda—T. A.". There is no chance of transferring this item from any other items in this department. I request the House may be pleased to sanction the allotment.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): On a point of information. There was a proposal to start an Ayurvedic Hospital at Ernakulam and a resolution was passed to that effect. But no action was taken.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): As the House is well aware, a number of demands have been made upon the Government indirectly and directly in connection with the war and I do not know whether we can start on new ventures at this time. As you see they are digging up trenches and things like that, and I do not think that this is the proper time to start a new institution. That was the only reason why it was not undertaken.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): Does this affect your budget?

Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): That is the very reason why we should start Ayurvedic hospitals, so that we can effect savings in the allopathic hospitals.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): It will not be saving anything in the Allopathic Department.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): Does any of the activities connected with the war affect the Minister's budget?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): No. But I must consider the thing as a whole. When I make an application for additional allotment, should I not be reasonable? Should I not take into consideration the existing state of things?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Cheruthuruthi*): If the Minister is convinced of the necessity and importance of the thing why should he not come with a demand in this House for additional allotment?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): I explained the reason why I have been hesitating to do it, because the time is very inopportune and the Government have various additional obligations to meet in connection with the war. As the Diwan President has explained, conditions have gone much worse, and I am afraid Government will have to spend large amounts.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Cheruthuruthi*): How can the time be inopportune to minimise the sufferings of the people?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): I say the time is inopportune to spend more money.

Demand put and carried.

3. Rs. 500 under "24—Public Health—A. 3—Rural Sanitation"

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): Sir, I beg to move for an additional allotment of Rs. 500 under "24—Public Health—A. 3.—Rural Sanitation". There is a threatening outbreak of small-pox in certain parts of the State, in Chittur and in other